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notice of an observing artist?" The rhapsody made use of by Mechanicus prevents me from following him any farther, to give room for a few observations of my own: Having tried the water barometer, as described in fig. 2, (see Magazine for June last) and have found, by repeated trials, a proportion between the body B. and the air in the small vessel—that seem to be correct, and to answer what Mr. R. proposes, viz. that it did neither rise nor fall between the temperature of 55 degrees of Fahrenheit's scale and 70; and I have found a size for a stem that also answers my expectation; but at first I made the stem too small, the consequence was that it could not be balanced, so as to stand at a mean height, but would either sink or swim, and stand at no other place than the top or bottom. But two difficulties, arise, and remain with me, one is, how to adapt a scale to it, so as to correspond with a mercurial barometer; the other still appears to me equally as difficult, to get air to preserve the same proportion, and not diminish in bulk. I would mention the proportions I have already found, and the kind of air I used; but hope that Mr. R. will give some more information, being thankful for his hints already given; and I think much better of this water barometer than as a "visionary toy." M.D.C.

Dublin, Oct. 7.

Remarks on the letter of M.D.C.

In reply to what M.D.C. has stated in part of his letter, of an apparent inclination against Mr. Rider in the Conductors of the Magazine, we can assure him he is totally mistaken; that on the contrary, our care to prevent his feelings being wounded needlessly, was so great, that we cut out so many passages of the first paper sent us by Mechanicus on the subject, which we thought would have that tendency, that Mechanicus sent to demand his paper back again: with the following observations annexed to it, which, as expressing the opinions of the Proprietors on the point of managing disputed subjects in our work, we take this opportunity to insert:

The second paper sent us by Mechanicus is that inserted in the last

number; but from this also we pruned some asperities, though in general it was so much more moderate than the first as to make this less necessary. For the same reason stated in the annexed observations, we have omitted an irritating paragraph at the end of the letter of M.D.C. On most subjects stated in the Magazine, the necessity of free and impartial discussion is obvious; we take no part on either side, but as moderators of that warmth which controversy of any kind is too apt to excite; but if partiality is at all justifiable, it is on the side of those who favour us with original papers, and such the Editor at least acknowledges he felt in favour of Mr. Rider's communication for this reason.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE PAPER OF MECHANICUS FIRST SENT.

Mr. Rider has not stated that the stem of his hydrometer was made of glass, as here asserted; the stem of it was probably of wire or thin brass, of which only the thickness is stated without mentioning the breadth. Several rough expressions of Mechanicus have been omitted; such are at least useless on most subjects, but on those of the nature of this paper are peculiarly objectionable, and have the less excuse, as these subjects contain nothing to excite the passions. If our Correspondents would in future consider this, they would much oblige us, and would save to themselves the trouble of writing what cannot be inserted, and to us, that of erasing it.

For the above reasons, two of the author's notes have been omitted also; in the first we agree with him that the word barometer is preferable to baroscope, from its being more in use, but object to the language in which this observation is conveyed. The other note is a personal reflection, and contains nothing to illustrate the subject.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

An Account of the progress of Joseph Lancaster's plan for the Education of poor Children, and the training of Masters for country Schools.

IN the year 1798 Joseph Lancaster opened a school in St. George's-fields, for the education of the chil-